

REMARKS


The Examiner has issued an Office Action dated April 22, 2005 (the "Office Action"), stating: "The reply filed on 12/03/2004 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): Applicants have not pointed out support in the Specification for the amendments to the claims." (Office Action, p. 2.) Applicant believes the response filed on December 3, 2004 was fully responsive to the prior Office Action per the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.111 as cited by the Examiner, as Applicant's reply included "arguments pointing out the specific distinctions believed to render the claims, including any newly presented claims, patentable over any applied references," as required by this rule. 37 C.F.R. §1.111(b).

However, in order to further prosecution of the present application, in response to the Examiner's assertion of omitted matter in Applicant's prior reply, Applicant points the Examiner to (at least) paragraphs [019], [051], [055]-[060] and [068]-[073], and Figures 4, 5a, 5b and 7 of the specification of the present application, which provide support for Applicant's amendments to claims 1, 3-8, and 10-16 in the previously filed reply.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. To the extent necessary, a petition for extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made, the fee for which should be charged to patent office deposit account 07-2347.

Respectfully submitted,

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